

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 00481 112014Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----120804 112018Z /46

O 111932Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0522
AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 0481

EXDIS

FOR EILTS FROM LEWIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, MILI, EG, IS
SUBJECT: BEGIN ON BELLICOSITY

1. AS I WAS LEAVING BEGIN'S HOME LATE THIS EVENING, JANUARY 11, AFTER A LENGTHY MEETING, HE ASKED THAT I CONVEY TO YOU, AND HE WOULD HOPE THROUGH YOU TO THE GOE, A POLITE MESSAGE. HE WAS STRUCK TODAY HE SAID BY THE RISING TIDE OF RENEWED THREATS OF WAR WHICH SEEMED TO BE APPEARING IN THE CAIRO PRESS SUDDENLY AGAIN. HE CITED PARTICULARLY AN EDITORIAL IN ONE OF THE LEADING CAIRO PAPERS, I THINK IT WAS, EL AHRAH, THREATENING HIM PERSONALLY WITH "ANOTHER OCTOBER" UNLESS HE YIELDS TO EGYPTIAN REQUIREMENTS. HE SAID WITH A RELAXED SMILE THAT THIS KIND OF THREAT HAS ABSOLUTELY NO IMPACT ON HIM OR ON ISRAELIS IN GENERAL, THAT IT IS USELESS IN INTIMIDATING HIM TO MAKE UNWISE CONCESSIONS. AND IT WOULD BE FAR BETTER TO REFRAIN FROM SUCH LANGUAGE. (HE THEN

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WRYLY COMMENTED ON WHAT HAD INDEED OCCURRED IN OCTOBER 1973 WITH RESPECT TO THE MILITARY OUTCOME, MERELY TO ILLUSTRATE THE UNREALITY OF THIS KIND OF PRESS STORY.)

2. I LEAVE IT TO YOU TO DO WHATEVER YOU THINK BEST WITH BEGIN'S MESSAGE. BUT HE SPECIFICALLY ASKED ME

TO ASK YOU TO CONVEY IT.
LEWIS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Draft Date: 11 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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